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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Ralf ZINK et al.

Application No.: 09/559,355

Group Art Unit: 1651

Filing Date: April 27, 2000

Examiner: Deborah K. WARE

For: ENHANCED GROWTH OF LACTIC ACID
BACTERIA IN MILK

Attorney Docket No.: 88265-320

AMENDMENT AND REPLY

Box AF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 18, 2002 (Paper No. 11),
Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks for entry into the above-identified
application.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 23.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A medium for growing *Lactobacilli* comprising:
a milk-derived base; and an additive system that comprises at least four free amino acids, at
least two nucleosides, and iron, in amounts sufficient in combination to promote growth of
lactobacilli in the medium.

2. (Twice Amended) The medium according to claim 1, wherein the
nucleosides are ribonucleosides, each added in the range of from about 10 to about 500
milligrams per liter of the medium.